REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-64 and 75-168 are presently active.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 18-64 and 75-168 were indicated as being allowed; and Claims 1-17, 65-74, and 169-172 having been canceled by way of the present amendment.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Office Action's indication that Claims 18-64 and 75-168 are allowed. To comply with the Ex Parte Quayle Action request, Claims 1-17, 65-74, and 169-172 are canceled.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

a hidd

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04) James J. Kulbaski Attorney of Record Registration No. 34,648

mald

Ronald A. Rudder Registration No. 45,618